

Appling Park

Location: Scotts Ferry Road (Highway 221),
Appling

Size: 6.32 acres

Current Status: Developed

Classification: Neighborhood Park

Amenities:

Large Field - 300', skinned infield, lighted, irrigated

Small Field - 200', skinned infield, lighted

Batting Cage

Playground

(1)Tennis Court, lighted

(1)Basketball Court

Restrooms

Picnic Areas



Assessments:

The Large Field is in good condition, with good turf coverage and a well-maintained infield. The dugouts are the arch-style that has been installed at other Columbia County ball fields. The lighting fixtures are mounted on metal poles. There is an older restroom/concessions building that is currently used for storage.

The Small Field has outfield fencing with the fencing fabric on the reverse side of the poles.

There is a newer restroom building - their current standard. No drinking fountain is installed on this building. There is no paved access to this building from the parking lot.

The basketball court is in good condition, the surface, goals and backboards are well maintained and in good condition. There is a bench installed nearby, but there is no lighting. There is no paved access from the parking lot to the basketball court.

Recommendations:

- Add drinking fountain to restroom building
- Add concrete walks to tennis, and basketball courts and to the playground.
- Pave the entry drive and parking lot with asphalt; re-stripe to provide organized parking and designated handicapped parking spaces.
- Remove old restroom building, or renovate to provide storage for maintenance.
- Relocate playground so that it is not in the outfield of a ball field. Make sure equipment is inspected and a certified safety inspector observes installation. Update all equipment as necessary.
- Re-install the fencing on the small field so the fencing fabric faces the field of play.
- Add landscaping material near playground to provide shade.

Blanchard Park

Location: Dewey Drive, Evans

Size: 25 acres

Current Status: Developed

Classification: Neighborhood Park

Amenities:

Field #1 - 200', grass infield, lighted, irrigated

Field #2 - 330' skinned infield, lighted, irrigated

Field #3 - 300' skinned infield, lighted, irrigated

(2) Tennis Courts, lighted

Soccer/Practice field (120'X250') - lighted, irrigated

Basketball - ½ court in a parking lot

Restroom building

Maintenance building

Warehouse for sports equipment

Picnic Areas

0.7 Mi. Walking trail - paved w/ asphalt



Assessments:

This park is an older one in the Columbia County Parks system.

Field number one - is a 200' field with a turf infield. The field is in fair condition, as is the fencing.

Field number two - is a 330' field with a skinned infield. The outfield is used to play peeewe football (80-yards). The dugouts are in fair condition (but not up to par with other facilities in the system); the floor of the dugouts is infield mix and cinders. The fencing is in poor condition - many areas are bowed and rusted. The adjacent scorer's tower and restrooms are in disrepair and are no longer in use. There is some storage space in this building. There are no paved surfaces around this field.

Field number three - is a 300' field with a skinned infield. The outfield is also used to play peeewe football (80-yards).

One metal storage-type building on the property is used to house the football, baseball and cheerleader equipment supplied by the County. This building is in fair condition, and serves its function, although the structure is an eyesore in the park. The election commission uses a second metal building which functions for voting purposes. The exterior of this building is in good condition, although not aesthetically pleasing.

The tennis courts are in good condition, with good surfacing and netting. The tennis courts are lighted, and the lighting appears to be in good condition.

There is an older restroom building to the left of the entry that is in very poor condition. The building has been vandalized and fallen into disrepair over the years. This building is no longer in use.

The irrigation at many locations in the park is either broken or inoperable, according to County Park staff members.

Recommendations:

- Park needs a new master plan for a complete rehabilitation.
- Remove older buildings currently not in use. (Including all scorer's towers, and two old restroom buildings)
- Construct new buildings to act as scorer's towers and restroom structures; add a concessions building.
- Re-route perimeter trail so that it will not interfere with games going on in the park.
- Remove metal storage buildings. Locate equipment storage in another County park facility.
- Replace irrigation throughout the park.
- Relocate basketball goal to a more remote parking area that will see less traffic from the entry drive.

Harlem Park

Location: Church Street, Harlem

Size: 13.5 acres

Current Status: Developed

Classification: Community Park

Amenities:

Field #1 - 180', skinned infield, lighted

Field #2 - 200', skinned infield, lighted, irrigated

Field #3 - 300', skinned infield, lighted, irrigated

Field #4 - 300', skinned infield, lighted, irrigated

(1)Tennis Court

(1)Basketball Court - full size

Restroom building

Playground

Picnic Areas



Assessments:

Entry Drive and parking lots are gravel or deteriorating asphalt. No parking lot is striped and there are no designated handicapped parking areas.

All of the baseball/softball fields in this park have had new Quallite lighting installed recently, all on concrete poles.

Field #1 - 200' field, skinned infield. The playing surface is in good condition, but the infield could use additional infield mix. Dugouts line the third base fence line due to the poor layout of the entry of the park. The first base line of this field's fencing is not more than 6 feet from the roadway entering the site. Since this field is programmed for use by T-ball and young girls' softball, both reported to be machine-pitch, the County has determined that a backstop is not necessary, according to County Park staff. Instead, a section of 8'-0" fencing is used as a backstop.

There is a playground between fields #1 and #2. There is no paved walkway from this playground to the parking lot.

Field #2 - 200' field, skinned infield. The playing surface is in good condition, but could also use some additional infield mix. The dugouts have dirt floors and are constructed of wood and fencing with metal roofing. There is no paved access from the dugout to the bleacher pads. There are two sets of ten-row bleachers situated on concrete pads that connect to sidewalk leading to the parking lot.

Field #3 - 300' field, skinned infield. The fencing on this field was recently replaced in the outfield and along both foul lines to the dugouts. The remainder of the fencing is in good condition. The playing surface is in good condition, as is the infield. The dugouts are constructed of wood and fencing and feature metal roofs. There is no paved access to the dugouts from the parking lot.

Field #4 was recently constructed and is in excellent condition.

The tennis court is in good condition and is lit with fixtures mounted on wooden poles.

The basketball court is in good condition and features arch-style concrete poles. The surface and equipment are in good condition. There is no paved access from the parking lot to the basketball court.

Recommendations:

- Pave access to newer playground from parking lot.
- Add scoreboards to all fields - Coca-Cola usually will provide the scoreboards, but the County may need to install the wiring and pay for controllers and install scorer's stands.
- Replace all dugouts to match newest field style w/ arch top.
- Re-align entry drive to allow maximum spacing between the road surface and the fencing for Field #1. Re-grade and re-fence this field to provide for dugouts on both baselines, and install a backstop. Upgrading these items, while shortening the field slightly, will allow programming for league play.
- Pave access to the tennis court, basketball court, restrooms and baseball fields.
- Add landscaping to entry.

Patriots Park

Location: Columbia Road, Grovetown

Size: 100 acres

Current Status: Developed

Classification: Community Park

Amenities:

Softball Complex:

Maroon Field - 320', lighted, irrigated

Yellow Field - 320', lighted, irrigated

Gray Field - 300', lighted, irrigated

Orange Field - 300', lighted, irrigated

Purple Field - 200', lighted, irrigated

Concessions/restroom/storage buildings

Baseball Complex:

Royal Field - 200', lighted, irrigated

Green Field - 200', lighted, irrigated

Red Field - 200', lighted, irrigated

Peach Field - 200', grass infield, lighted, irrigated

Columbia Field - 330'-380'-330', lighted, irrigated

Navy Field - (distance was not marked on field)

Football/Soccer field - lighted, irrigated

Playground

0.25-mi. Walking path (sidewalk)

(2) Concessions/restroom/storage buildings

Picnic Tables

Composting demonstration display

War Memorial

Frisbee Golf Course - 18 "holes"

600 Parking Spaces - entire park total

0.25 Mi. Walking path (sidewalk)

Parks Administration office building

Gymnasium Building:

(2) Basketball Courts

(4) Racquetball Courts

Weight/workout room

Activity/program room

Locker rooms and restrooms

Offices

Storage

Soccer Complex:

Green - fixed goals (football field goals also), lighted, irrigated

Yellow - 225'X360', lighted, irrigated

Navy - 225'X360', lighted, irrigated

Columbia - 225'X360', lighted, irrigated



Assessments:

Columbia Road Entry and Tennis Complex

The entry signage is adequate, and the center median of the divided entry is nicely landscaped. The entry vehicular access is confusing for first-time visitors, with little signage to direct traffic to the proper parking locations for each activity. At the end of the divided entry median lies a war memorial. This memorial is in an unsafe location, and is accessible only by walking into the direct path of vehicular traffic or standing between cars parked in adjacent parking spaces.

The tennis complex lies to the west of the entry, and consists of nine tennis courts broken into three pods of three each. All of the courts are lighted and are in excellent condition. One pod of tennis courts has a set of bleachers situated on grass with no paved access. A small picnic area with a grill is situated to the south of the tennis complex and also has no paved access. A composting demonstration project is adjacent to the picnic area. This project needs additional maintenance and signage explaining the process if this is to become a feature of the park. There are 96 parking spaces associated with this complex, more than adequate.

Six-Field Baseball Complex (Youth baseball / football)

Engraved granite plaques imbedded in the concrete walkway define the "walk of fame" to and through the complex. The plaques name the teams, players and coaches that have won championships in baseball or softball. The first three fields approached from the parking lot are designated "Red", "Green" and "Royal" and feature dome backstops, arch-style dugouts with tarp roofs, sets of five-row bleachers or ten-row bleachers, and two batting cages between two of the fields.

The concessions area in the center of the complex is a geometrically round-shaped building at the center of the "Red", "Green", and "Royal" fields. This structure has many features that are poorly designed. There is a lockable hallway with access to the concessions area, both restrooms, and the concessions window. This hallway is lined with linoleum, which is not conducive to players and coaches walking to the facilities in spiked baseball or softball shoes. The entry to the restrooms also does not provide much privacy to the players from the concessions hallway. This hallway is also too small to accommodate five game's worth of potential concessions customers. The restrooms each feature a septic-type sewer system that must be cleaned out on a regular basis. The upper-level scorer's area is not accessible by ADA standards, and there does not appear to be any ground-level scoreboard control options.

The parking lot adjacent to this complex is inadequate. Current parking standards for soccer, baseball, and softball fields call for 60 spaces per field, while football usually requires 200 or more parking spaces. If this formula were applied to the six-field complex, 420-560 parking spaces would be necessary. There are currently less than 100 spaces adjacent to this complex.

A football/soccer field is situated in the center of the complex. No dedicated bleacher seating is evident for this field. A concrete walkway circles the field and is used as a leisure walking track.

The remaining three baseball fields (Navy, Columbia, and Peach) are situated surrounding a newer concessions/restroom building. This building represents the new County standard and is in good condition. The stucco material used on the sides of the structure is starting to show some wear, with a few places where either balls or bats have dented or put holes in the surface. There appears to be a drainage problem with standing water at the access point to the men's restroom on the north side of the building.

The Navy field is at a lower elevation than the surrounding pavement, and home plate is sunken +/- 4'-0" using Concrete gravity-type retaining walls. This wall is failing along the third base line, with serious erosion at the top of the wall causing erosion around the blocks and a hole in the soil surrounding the wall. This area is a safety hazard and should be remedied. There is an ADA accessible route to the 1st base dugout, but no ADA accessible route to the 3rd base dugout, instead there is a concrete stairway with no handrails. The field surface and fencing at this field are in good condition. This field is lighted and features a dome-style backstop and a scoreboard.

The Columbia Field is also at a lower elevation than the surrounding pavement, with home plate sunken +/- 4'-0" using Concrete gravity-type retaining walls. The fencing for the backstop is installed in front of the wall, creating an inaccessible, narrow space for weeds to grow and trash to collect. There is an ADA accessible route to the 3rd base dugout, but no ADA accessible route to the 1st base dugout, instead there is a concrete stairway with no handrails. The 1st base dugout is also collecting 2-4" of silt and mud due to runoff and poor maintenance that is a safety and accessibility issue. The field surface and fencing at this field are in good condition. This field is lighted and features a dome-style backstop and a scoreboard.

The Peach Field is a 200' field with a turf infield. The field surface is in good condition. There are no paved walkways leading to the bleacher seating or dugouts. The dugouts have weeds that are encroaching through the fencing and cracks in the sidewalk. There are no scoreboards on this field. The fencing on this field is in good condition.

Soccer Complex

There are four soccer fields situated in the center of the site, each designated by color. The fields share parking with the gymnasium complex and the five-field softball complex. All of these fields are lighted, with fixtures mounted on concrete poles. Parking appears to be inadequate for four soccer fields, especially if softball or gymnasium activities are occurring simultaneously with soccer games. A minimum of 60 parking spaces should be allotted for each soccer field. The description of each field is as follows:

The "Green" field is situated farthest east of the gymnasium complex and the parking lots. This field features soccer goals that also serve as football goal posts. This field has four sets of five-row bleachers, both situated on concrete pads. There is sidewalk access leading to one set of bleachers, but none to the other. There is a low, wet spot between the two bleacher pads. A pair of aluminum team bleacher benches is set in the grass adjacent to the field of play. The field is in excellent condition, with only small bare spots in front of each goal. Large nets line the south end of the field, providing protec-

tion from balls kicked into the woods. This field has a wooden scorer's stand, painted green, that is in good condition. There are no electrical connections or scoreboards at this field.

The "Yellow" field lies to the west of the "Green" field and features soccer goals without football goalposts. The field surface is in excellent condition. There is protective netting at the north and south end of the field to provide protection from balls kicked into the woods. This field has no scoreboard or scorer's stand. There are 4 sets of five-row bleachers, all situated on concrete pads; one pair of bleachers is connected to a concrete sidewalk. There are two trash receptacles at this field, but only one team bench. A low spot between the "Yellow" field and the "Navy" field appears to hold water, causing a muddy depression.

The "Navy" field lies to the west of the "Yellow" field. The field surface is in excellent condition, with only small bare spots at the front of each goal. This field has 4 sets of five-row bleachers; each pair of two is situated on a concrete pad, one of which is tied to the concrete sidewalk leading to the parking area. This field features two trash receptacles, and two team benches. The field has a scorer's stand and an electric scoreboard. Between the "Navy" and "Columbia" fields are two temporary metal buildings. One of these appears to be used for storage and the other is a portable concessions trailer.

The "Columbia" field lies to the west of the "Navy" field and east of the parking lot. The field surface is in excellent condition with small bare spots at the front of each goal. This field has 4 sets of five-row bleachers, which are situated on a pair of concrete pads. A concrete path leads from one set of bleachers to the parking lot.

Gymnasium Area

The gymnasium building is located at the end of the entry drive off Columbia Road. The drive terminates in a parking lot that is shared by the gymnasium, the County Parks and Recreation offices and the soccer complex. The Gymnasium is in excellent condition and houses two basketball courts, a weight room, four racquetball courts, a weight/workout room, activity/program room, locker rooms with restrooms, offices, and storage rooms. The adjacent parks and recreation offices are in good condition, although a physical connection between the two buildings should be added.

A small putting green and playground are adjacent to the parks and recreation offices. The putting green is in poor condition, but the whole area was under renovation at the time of the consultant's visit. The playground has equipment that is in good condition, and there is a bench seating area. These two facilities are accessible via a paved walkway from the adjacent parking lot.

The beginning point, the #1 tee for the disc golf course, begins to the north of the playground area. The disc golf course winds throughout the park and has 18 "holes". The beginning point for the disc golf course is in need of facility identification signage.

William Few Parkway Entry

The entry off of William Few Parkway is nicely landscaped and has an entry sign that is in good condition. The entry layout seems to function fairly well, although a simpler design would have been sufficient and may have offered an opportunity for additional

parking spaces. The drive leads to a paved parking lot for approximately 170 vehicles. A gravel lot adjacent to the paved spaces provides parking for about 80 vehicles. The parking lot terminates and does not continue to the rest of the park. There are two access points to enter the five-field softball complex - a paved walkway between the "Orange" and "Gray" fields and a gravel service drive between the "Orange" and "Yellow" fields.

Five-Field Softball Complex

The five-field softball complex is accessed only from the William Few Parkway entry. This complex also has a dedicated parking lot, with approximately 170 parking spaces in paved parking and 60 spaces in gravel parking. This parking is inadequate for the complex, which should have a total of 60 per field, or 300 parking spaces. As with the baseball and soccer facilities, the softball fields are designated by color.

The "Gray" field has a 300' outfield, a skinned infield, two sets of 10-row bleachers, and vertical backstops. The dugouts are constructed on concrete pads with chain link fence walls and tarp roofs.

The "Orange", "Maroon", and "Yellow" fields have 320' outfields and skinned infields. All of these fields feature similar backstops, bleachers, and dugouts to the "Gray" field. The "Orange" field has some minor repairs that should be made: the fencing is buckled at the 1st base side, and the 3rd base bleacher pad has a drainage problem.

The "Purple" field in this complex is the championship youth fast pitch softball field. The outfield is 200' and the infield is turf, with skinned base paths. The field turf is in excellent condition; however, the transition from turn to infield has a 4-6" lip in some places, which is a trip hazard and could cause injury to players. The fencing is black vinyl-coated and is in excellent condition. The outfield fencing features a protective yellow cap, and the backstop is black nylon netting. Behind the backstop are four sets of 10-row bleachers that are raised above the field level of play. A series of ramps and stairways lead from the concrete plaza to the bleacher seating at this field. The ramps do not appear to comply with the ADA requirement for landings every 30 feet, but also appear to have a slope shallower than the required 1:12. A picnic area with four picnic tables is situated directly behind home plate. There is a fenced pitcher warm-up area at the first base line.

The outfield of the "Purple" field features four sets of five-row bleachers set in the grass outside of the outfield fencing. There are no paved walkways to these bleacher sets. There are two batting cage areas outside of the right field fencing. The batting cages are in fair condition, and could use some additional regular maintenance and adjustment of the existing netting.

The concessions area in the center of the complex is similar to the geometrically round-shaped building at the center of the "Red", "Green", and "Royal" fields in the baseball complex. This structure has many features that are poorly designed. There is a lockable hallway with access to the concessions area, both restrooms, and the concessions window. This hallway is lined with linoleum, which is not conducive to players and coaches walking to the facilities in spiked baseball or softball shoes. The entry to the restrooms also does not provide much privacy to the players from the concessions hallway.

This hallway is also too small to accommodate five game's worth of potential concessions customers. The restrooms each feature a septic-type sewer system that must be cleaned out on a regular basis. The upper-level scorer's area is not accessible by ADA standards, and there does not appear to be any ground-level scoreboard control options.

Recommendations:

- Add parking spaces. This can be achieved quickly by eliminating one or more soccer fields, and replacing the fields with parking lot space. One soccer field will allow for approximately 220 parking spaces.
- Add perimeter walking trail.
- Add pedestrian connections from parking lots to all activities.
- Add sewer service to concession/restroom buildings that currently use a modified septic system.
- Add walking path from soccer complex to six-field baseball complex. (through the woods)
- Add signage for the disc golf course w/ formal start point.
- Pave the gravel lot at five-field complex and connect with a paved drive to the gymnasium portion of the site.
- Pave a path to the bleachers at the tennis complex.
- Relocate playground at the six-field complex to an area less likely to be hit by home-run balls.
- Add signage for vehicular circulation and facility identification.
- Re-align entry drive for improved vehicular circulation through park.
- Move the composting demonstration area to a location that will be more easily accessible and visible. Add more informative signage.
- Repair drainage problem at new restroom building on north side of building nearest to the Navy field in the six-field baseball complex. Pour new concrete for positive drainage.
- Repair failing retaining wall at the Navy Field.
- Remove weeds, trash from backstop areas of Navy and Columbia baseball fields.
- Add sidewalks to Peach Field.
- Repair soccer netting that is torn or cut.
- Raise low spots between soccer fields to eliminate muddy depressions.
- Add facility identification signage to disc golf course.
- Repair warped or bent fencing in five-field complex. (Orange field, most notably)
- Add access points to the five-field complex and parking area from the park headquarters building.
- Pave the gravel maintenance drive between the Orange and Yellow fields in the five-field complex

Riverside Park

Location: Hardy McManus Road, Evans

Size: 55 acres

Current Status: Developed

Classification: Community Park

Amenities:

Betty's Branch area:

Boat ramp

Fishing pier

Floating dock

Sand volleyball court

Picnic shelter w/ picnic tables

Restroom building

(3) Tennis courts - lighted

Existing four-field complex:

Green Field - 150', T-Ball, no lights, no irrigation

Red Field - 200', lighted, irrigated

Blue Field - 200', lighted, irrigated

Yellow Field - 300', lighted, irrigated

Concessions/scorer's/restroom/storage building

Playground

Maintenance compound - storage only

Four-field complex currently under construction:

(4) Youth baseball fields - lighted, irrigated

Concessions/scorer's/restroom/storage building

Parking lot

Open playfield space - irrigated



Assessments:

Betty's Branch Area

This area of the park features a large gravel parking lot with access to the Savannah River via a concrete boat ramp. There is a fishing dock with handicapped access, as well as a boat loading dock. These facilities are in good condition. There is a concrete pad that provides handicapped parking and access to these riverside facilities.

A picnic pavilion, a restroom building and a sand volleyball court are situated on the opposite end of the gravel parking lot. The buildings are in good condition, and the restroom structure has a water fountain mounted on the exterior. The sand volleyball court, on the other hand, is in need of repair. The sand is not being retained properly, causing sand to spill out onto the surrounding grass. A bank of three tennis courts is visible from this location, but accessed at a different elevation.

The tennis courts are lighted and are accessed from the parking lot at the four-field area located centrally in the park. These courts are in good condition, are lit, and feature paved access to the parking lot.

A maintenance compound is situated adjacent to the tennis courts. This compound consists of a storage shed and storage yard. The building is in fair condition, but could use minor reconditioning and cleaning.

The centrally located four-field complex has four ball fields, all with skinned infields, situated radially around a concessions/restroom/storage building. This structure is the newer County Standard, and is in excellent condition. This structure does not, however, provide an ADA accessible route to the second floor scorer's area. All of these fields feature playing surfaces and fencing that are in good condition. All of the fields except for the "Green" T-ball field are irrigated and lighted. All fields have two sets of 10-row bleachers on concrete pads.

This four-field complex also has a newer playground structure. This playground has no paved route to the entry, and may be located in an unsafe location - just outside of the first base line in the outfield of the green field.

The remaining four-field complex in this park was under construction at the time of the consultant's visit, and could not be properly evaluated.

Recommendations:

- Pave part or all of the parking lot at the Betty's Branch area. Pave the area closest to the pavilion, restroom, and volleyball court.
- Reconstruct the volleyball court so that the sand is properly contained.
- Pave walkways to and from the parking areas to picnic pavilion and volleyball.
- Pave access to the playground in the older four-field complex.
- Clean up the maintenance compound; screen materials stored outside from public view.

Reed Creek Park

Location: Park Lane, Evans

Size: 13.43 Acres

Current Status: Undeveloped

Classification: Mini Park/Special Use Park

Amenities:

Access from Park Drive

Assessments:

Site is covered at least 50% with a swampy, marshy lowland. This park is undeveloped.

Master planning efforts were underway at the time of this report, and a wetland interpretive park should be under construction over the next few years. The master plan calls for the addition of picnic facilities, an outdoor classroom area, a playground, a parking lot and a boardwalk trail that will wind through the wetland portion of the property.

Recommendations:

- Construct wetland interpretive park.



Roberts Park

Location: Coy Lacey Drive, Martinez

Size: 2 Acres

Current Status: Developed

Classification: Mini Park

Amenities:

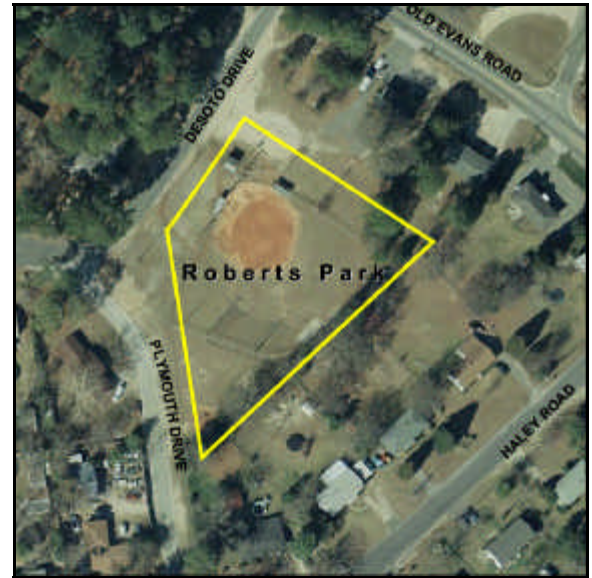
Youth Baseball field - 200' lighted,
no irrigation

Storage Building

Playground

Assessments:

This park is in very poor condition. The restroom building has been vandalized to the point that it is inoperable.



The ball field has a skinned infield and turf outfield. The field condition is poor. Lights on the field are operable, but appear to be in poor condition and may not be lighting to any sort of level that would support a league baseball or softball game. The lighting fixtures are mounted on wooden poles. There are no bleachers or water fountains at this facility.

The playground equipment is older, and much of it appears to be unsafe or in poor working condition. An adjacent half-court basketball pad is in fair condition but needs refurbishing.

The site features a gravel parking lot, but many users are walk-ins from the adjacent neighborhoods.

Recommendations:

- Remove the structures and fencing and all unsafe playground equipment.
- Install new playground.
- Install new backstop; create a "sandlot" type facility.
- Resurface basketball court and paint poles.
- Eliminate all parking, except for two handicap spaces.
- Pave walkways to the basketball court and playground from the parking lot.

Savannah Rapids Pavilion

Location: Evans To Locks Road, Evans

Size: 31 acres

Current Status: Developed

Classification: Special Use Park

Amenities:

Pavilion Building:

- (7) Meeting/Banquet rooms
- Offices
- Storage rooms
- Banquet capacity for 500 people
- Observation deck
- Full commercial kitchen
- Small kitchen

Parking lot - 300 spaces

Picnic Areas

Outdoor stage

Playground

Nature trails



Assessments:

The pavilion building and immediate grounds are in good condition and have a master plan in place for enhancements to the immediate grounds and to the Savannah Rapids waterfront. The plan calls for parking, trail and pedestrian bridge enhancements, among others.

Recommendations:

- Obtain funds to construct items mentioned in the Master Plan.
- Upgrade playground equipment and relocate out of parking lot area.
- Add a paved walkway to the outdoor stage w/ ADA accessible route.

Wildwood Park

Location: Highway #47 (Washington Road)

Size: +/- 948 acres

Current Status: Developed

Classification: Special Use Park

Amenities:

(2) Ranger residences

Gate House

Camper storage area

Restroom and bathhouse structures

Playground areas

Boat ramps

Maintenance structure

Storage building

(3) Picnic shelters

Picnic areas

Mountain bike trail - five-mile loop

Hiking trails

(61) Tent and RV campsites - most have grill, picnic table, electricity and water

Volleyball courts

Beach swim area

Hiking trails - 7 miles total (Bartram Trail section)



Assessments:

The park entry signage is relatively new and in very good condition. The signage is stone and wood construction, with some landscaping to accent. A long entry drive, mowed on both sides of the roadway, leads to a small gatehouse. Park personnel manage the gatehouse. A day-use fee is charged for entry to the park, as well as fees for the camping areas. To the east of the gatehouse, a gravel drive leads to a gravel parking lot that is used to store campers and recreational vehicles. The County charges a monthly fee for storage. The park property also contains two houses that provide residence for two park rangers and their families. These two rangers maintain and manage Wildwood Park. There is an abandoned archery range that is currently used for 3-D target shooting. This area is also available for rental. Hiking and biking trails cross the roadway as campers and beach-goers drive to their destination toward Strom Thurmond Lake.

Wildwood Park's camping and day-use areas are divided into three areas.

Area I features RV, Pop-up and trailer camping, and seems to be the location where a majority of the extended stay campers are located. This area is convenient to the beach and a boat ramp. A newer bathhouse structure and playground are associated with this area.

Area II - is also set up for RV, Pop-up, and trailer camping. Each pad has an electrical and water hook-up. These spots seem to function well, and fill a need for extended-stay campers.

The boat ramp at Area II is in good condition; however the gravel parking lot adjacent to this ramp receives heavy use on the weekends, causing some rutting and some loss of the gravel surfacing.

The mountain bike trail was constructed recently, with the aid of local mountain biking experts as consultants. Mountain bikers park their vehicles in a gravel/grass parking lot and follow signage to the trail entry.

RV Camper "stalls" consist of gravel pads, each with an electrical hook-up, water connection, and a picnic table at each. There is a centrally located restroom/shower building that was recently constructed.

The beach area at this location is in poor condition, and is in need of additional beach material in the form of sand or turf grass.

Area III contains both the day-use lake access and camping areas. The area is reserved for tent camping, and most of the campsites are located around two looped roadways. A bathhouse is located in the center of the east loop of Area III. Lakefront picnic areas are dispersed throughout the tent camping areas. This area also boasts a shelter situated on the northernmost peninsula of the park that doubles as a bass tournament shelter.

The beach shelter at Area III is in poor condition. This shelter was created by removing the walls from a building that remained on site at the time when Columbia County took over the property from the Corps of Engineers.

The Area III beach area (adjacent to the westernmost boat launch) is in excellent condition, and seems to be a popular attraction. The associated boat launches do not appear to receive much use. These ramps are in good structural condition, but are overgrown with weeds as is the area surrounding the boat launch.

Recommendations:

- Pave RV Camping stalls w/ asphalt.
- Construct a new pavilion sized to meet the demands of a large bass tournament.
- Remove Picnic Pavilion at Area III. Construct a new picnic shelter at this location.
- Locate beach swimming area in a better location. Place pavilion w/ restrooms, volleyball and playground near the beach.
- Repair boat ramp at Area III and pave the adjacent parking lot.
- Improve the beach/ swimming area at Area II - clear brush, trash, add amenities.
- Construct larger maintenance storage shed and construct a new maintenance storage yard, screened from public areas of the park.
- Install a drinking fountain, shade structure, and additional amenities adjacent to the mountain bike trail parking.
- Pave the parking lot at Area II boat ramp; provide additional parking at this location also.
- Add paved walkways to each amenity in the park.
- Allow Disc Golf Association to construct a championship disc golf course on the

property. A proposal has been brought to the attention of Columbia County's Recreation and Leisure Services Department for the Disc Golf association to construct a championship disc golf course, to be able to host the national disc golf championships. This type of facility could be a good source of revenue for Wildwood Park and the recreation department.

- Improve the on-site park staff facilities.
- Conduct a Marina feasibility study.

Euchee Creek (Bessie Thomas) Community Center

Location: 10th Street

Size: 2.75 acres

Current Status: Developed

Classification: Neighborhood Park

Amenities:

Community Center Building:

Craft room w/ kiln in ventilated closet

Storage

Kitchen

Large program room

Offices

Covered picnic shelter (30'X40')

Asphalt parking lot

County Medical Center



Assessments:

The Community Center Building acts primarily as a meal center, serving approximately 160 meals per day. Many of these meals are delivered, but some are served in the large activity/dining room. The activity/dining room has a fireplace that is reported to be inoperable, as well as several folding tables, chairs, and some entertainment equipment (a large screen television and a portable keyboard). This activity room is also available for rental by reservation through the County Parks Department, which causes some conflict at times.

The activity room overlooks a covered picnic shelter that was under construction at the time of the inspection visit. The Community Center also contains offices, a craft room with a kiln, a full kitchen with commercial-grade stainless steel appliances and fixtures, and storage rooms. A County Medical Center building shares the main structure.

Adjacent to the Community Center is a library and a forestry station.

Recommendations:

- Provide paved connection to the library with an ADA accessible route.
- Repair the fireplace.
- Increase the size of this Community Center to provide additional programming opportunities.

The Community Center director noted that there is a genuine need for an additional Community Center in the Evans area. His vision for this Center would have a larger cross-section of citizens with mid- to upper-incomes using the facility. This facility would have an expanded crafts program, a larger activity center, recreation opportunities, a computer lab, and less emphasis on meals.

Eubank Blanchard Community Center

Location: Hwy. #150 and Ray Owens Road (Old Hwy 47) in the Phinizy Community approximately 5 miles from Appling.

Size: 9.8 acres

Current Status: Developed

Classification: Neighborhood Park

Amenities:

Community Center Building:
 Large community room
 Kitchen
 Restrooms
 EMS/Sheriff substation

Asphalt Parking lot

Cinder/gravel walking track, 0.25 mi. - lighted

Playground

Seating area



Assessments:

The Community Center building is in excellent condition. The main program room is very nice with hardwood floors, a large fireplace and wall-mounted speakers. The kitchen is fully equipped with commercial-grade stainless steel fixtures and appliances. The building is locked except on the occasions when it has been rented or programmed for use by the Community Centers Department. There is an ADA accessible route from the parking lot to the Community Center.

There is an asphalt walkway that leads from the parking lot to the cinder-surfaced walking track. This connection is in fair shape, but the curbing formed in the pathway causes runoff from the parking lot to erode the walking cinder walking track at the connection point. This creates ruts and loose cinders at this location, which may be a trip or slip hazard.

Recommendations:

- Replace walking track access path with one that is safe, ADA compliant, and does not cause erosion problems.
- Pave the walking track.
- Provide more extensive playground options, with paved access to the playground.
- Provide picnic tables adjacent to Community Center.
- Purchase additional land around the Community Center property and add more recreation opportunities.
- Plant trees around walking track for shade.

Grovetown City Park - Goodale Park

Location: I-20 to Exit 190. Turn left to the stop light in Grovetown

Size: +/- 7 Acres

Current Status: Developed

Classification: Neighborhood Park

Amenities:

320' Field, skinned infield, lighted

225' Field, skinned infield, lighted

Concessions/restroom building

(2)Tennis courts - lighted

Basketball court

Gravel parking lot

1/3 mi. cinder walking track

Picnic area

Playground



Assessments:

Both of the baseball/softball fields have playing surfaces that feature turf that is in good condition, but infields that are scattered with clumps of weeds. The lighting fixtures for these fields are set on wooden poles that are in fair condition. A concrete walkway leads from a small asphalt parking pad in the gravel parking lot for an ADA accessible route to a brick concessions/restroom structure between the fields. This building is in good condition externally, however, the design team was not able to inspect the interior at the time of the visit. The fields each have two sets of five-row bleachers for seating.

The gravel parking lot and gravel roadways within the park have areas of severe erosion and ruts, which could be a trip hazard to park patrons.

The tennis courts are in fair condition, with the asphalt playing surface starting to show age through cracks, although there are no weeds growing through them. The tennis courts have lights mounted on wood poles. A full-size basketball court with bleacher seating (five-row x 21 feet) is situated adjacent to the tennis area. This court is in fair condition, with few cracks in the asphalt playing surface, intact rims, and chain nets.

Recommendations:

If a joint-use agreement between Grovetown and Columbia County is agreed upon:

- Pave the parking lots.
- Provide paved ADA access points to all features of the park from the parking lot.
- Pave the 1/3 mile walking trail.
- Provide public restrooms.
- Replace infield mix on both fields.



- Upgrade lighting to County standards - if nighttime play is desired at this park.
- Replace unsafe playground equipment, upgrade play surfacing, provide ADA equipment and access.
- Replace signage to indicate that this park is a Columbia County Park.

Grovetown City Park - Newmantown Park

Location: Newmantown Road in Grovetown

Size: +/- 49 Acres

Current Status: Developed - parts are still under construction

Classification: Neighborhood Park

Amenities:

(1) +/-300' Field, skinned infield, lighted, irrigated

(3) +/-225' Field, turf infield, lighted, irrigated

Concessions/restroom building/scorer's tower

(1) Soccer field

(2) Tennis courts - lighted

Basketball court (future)

Gravel parking lot (future - to be paved)

1/2 mi. walking track with exercise stations

Picnic area

Playground



Assessments:

This park is a recent addition to the Grovetown City Park system. The first phase of construction is complete and includes four baseball/softball fields. All of the fields are lighted and irrigated, and feature new fencing and scoreboards.

This park was constructed using some Columbia County tax moneys, and the mayor of Grovetown expects the Columbia County park staff to program this park for team athletics. Currently, Grovetown has no official parks department to program their two parks. A council member currently oversees the Streets and Recreation Departments for the City of Grovetown.

Recommendations:

If a joint-use agreement between Grovetown and Columbia County is agreed upon:

- Provide paved ADA access points to all features of the park from the parking lot.
- Replace signage to indicate that this park is a Columbia County Park.
- Install all future phases of the park, to include facilities that are needed for District III programming. This may include adding more soccer fields, baseball/softball fields, skate park, etc.
- Add a maintenance compound.
- Add district office.

**Private Park -
Little League Park**

Location: Old Belair Road

Size: 23.47 Acres

Current Status: Developed

Classification:

Amenities:

4 Baseball fields - skinned infields, irrigated, lighted

Concessions/restroom building

Gravel parking lot

Assessments:

This park is privately owned and run primarily as a baseball park for little league.

All field surface, fencing, dugouts, lights, irrigation, and the concession/restroom building are in good condition. Within the complex, the only area that has concrete paving is a small band of concrete around the concessions/restroom building. Because of the lack of paving, there are several ruts and small areas that have been washed out, causing trip hazards no ADA accessible route to the facility.

The parking lot is a gravel lot that also has areas of severe erosion, causing some unsafe walking conditions.

Recommendations:

- County should look into helping to fund the Little League program and work towards a joint-use agreement with the owners of this facility to provide Columbia County citizens with additional fields to play league games.

If joint-use agreement is reached, the following improvements should be explored:

- Pave walkways, paths to dugouts and bleachers, and handicapped parking.
- Add storm drainage measures to parking lot and future paved walkways.
- Pave gravel parking lot with asphalt and stripe for vehicular circulation control.
- Add park signage.



Georgia State Park - Mistletoe

Location: Mistletoe Road (off State Route 150, Cobbham Road), NE Columbia County

Size: +/- 1,920 Acres

Current Status: Developed

Classification: Regional Park

Amenities:

92 Tent, Trailer, and RV campsites
(\$13-\$18)

4 Walk-in campsites (\$7.50)

Camper cabin, sleeps four (\$30)

10 Cottages (\$65-\$95)

72,000-acre Clarks Hill Lake access via 3
boat ramps

Swimming beach

Fishing w/ ADA accessible dock

4 Picnic shelters (\$25)

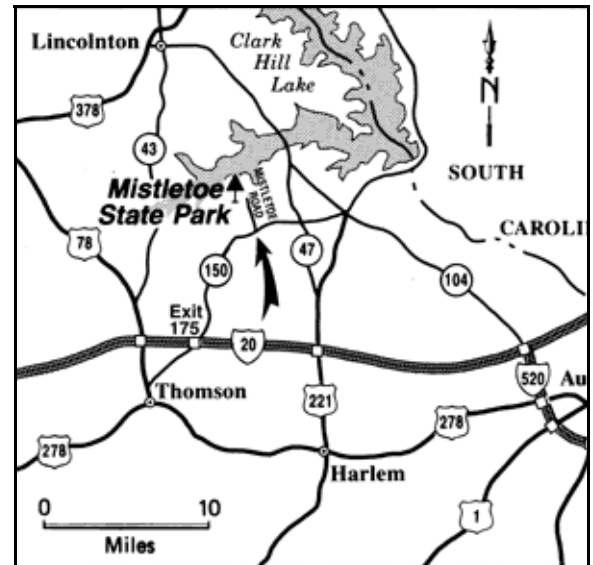
Large group shelter rental, seats 150 (\$100)

Pioneer campground (\$25)

Surf-bike, canoe, fishing boat rental (seasonal)

Hiking trail - 12 miles

Nature trail - 3.5 miles



Assessments:

According to information listed on the Georgia State Parks web site, Mistletoe State Park "is known as one of the finest bass fishing spots in the nation. During the summer, guests can cool down at the beach or on miles of shaded nature trails. Canoes and fishing boats are available for rent, and a wildlife observation area is available. The park has 10 fully equipped cottages on the lake; five of which are log cabins. The campground is situated on a peninsula, offering spectacular views of both sunset and sunrise over the open water. A four-bed camper cabin with electricity and water faces the lake."

Recommendations:

None for this State Park.



Figure 5.4

	Quantity	Cost	Unit	Total Cost
Appling Park				
Drinking fountain at restroom building	1	\$2,200.00	EA	\$2,200.00
Add Concrete walkways to tennis court and basketball court	100	\$13.50	LF	\$1,350.00
Pave and stripe the parking lot	120	\$400.00	Per Space	\$48,000.00
Remove old and install new restroom building	1	\$120,000.00	LS	\$120,000.00
Relocate playground equipment, upgrade equipment	1	\$15,000.00	LS	\$15,000.00
Re-install fencing on small field	1	\$4,000.00	LS	\$4,000.00
Entry Sign	1	\$4,500.00	LS	\$4,500.00
Landscape/Irrigation	1	\$6,000.00	LS	\$6,000.00
			Subtotal	\$201,050.00
			Design Fees@8%	\$16,084.00
			Contingency Fee@15%	\$30,157.50
			Total	\$247,291.50
Blanchard Park				
Park masterplan	1	\$30,000.00	LS	\$30,000.00
Remove old structures, construct new structures	1	\$350,000.00	LS	\$350,000.00
Install new irrigation system throughout park	1	\$45,000.00	LS	\$45,000.00
Misc. re-design features per masterplan	1	\$250,000.00	LS	\$250,000.00
Entry Sign	1	\$4,500.00	LS	\$4,500.00
			Subtotal	\$679,500.00
			Design Fees@8%	\$54,360.00
			Contingency Fee@15%	\$101,925.00
			Total	\$835,785.00
Harlem Park				
Drinking fountain at restroom building	1	\$2,200.00	EA	\$2,200.00
Add Concrete walkways to all emmenities	350	\$13.50	LF	\$4,725.00
Pave and stripe the parking lot, re-align entry drive	1	\$120,000.00	LS	\$120,000.00
Replace dugouts on F #1,2,3 to match F#4	6	\$5,000.00	EA	\$30,000.00
Re-install fencing on small field	1	\$4,000.00	LS	\$4,000.00
Entry Sign	1	\$4,500.00	LS	\$4,500.00
Landscape/Irrigation	1	\$6,000.00	LS	\$6,000.00
			Subtotal	\$171,425.00
			Design Fees@8%	\$13,714.00
			Contingency Fee@15%	\$25,713.75
			Total	\$210,852.75

**Patriots Park**

Add 220 parking spaces by removing 2 soccer fields	220	\$400.00	Per Space	\$88,000.00
Add perimeter walking trail - asphalt, 10' wide, 3/4 mile	3960	\$19.00	LF	\$75,240.00
Add pedestrian walkway and bridge from parking to ballfields	1	\$10,000.00	LS	\$10,000.00
Sewer Service to 5-field complex	1	\$20,000.00	LS	\$20,000.00
Pave parking lot at 5-field complex	1	\$25,000.00	LS	\$25,000.00
Pave pathway to bleachers at tennis area	100	\$13.50	LF	\$1,350.00
re-align entry drive	1	\$0.00	LS	\$0.00
Add sidewalks to Peach Field	1	\$0.00	LS	\$0.00
Raise low areas between soccer fields for positive drainage	1	\$1,500.00	LS	\$1,500.00
Add paved walk to 5-field from gymnasium area	500	\$13.50	LF	\$6,750.00
Add facility signage for disc golf activity area	1	\$500.00	LS	\$500.00
Relocate playground equipment at 6-field complex	1	\$5,000.00	LS	\$5,000.00
Add park signage for facilities and amenities,	1	\$5,000.00	LS	\$5,000.00
Add vehicular signage for direction of circulation	8	\$350.00	EA	\$2,800.00
Repair concrete at restroom near Navy Field	1	\$1,000.00	EA	\$1,000.00
Repair retaining wall @ Navy Field	1	\$1,000.00	LS	\$1,000.00
make repairs to soccer netting	1	\$5,000.00	LS	\$5,000.00
Pave the maintenance drive at 5-field complex	350	\$22.00	LF	\$7,700.00
Renovate facilities in two concessions/restroom buildings	2	\$100,000.00	LS	\$200,000.00

Subtotal \$455,840.00**Design Fees@8% \$36,467.20****Contingency Fee@15% \$68,376.00****Total \$560,683.20****Riverside Park**

Pave the gravel parking lot at Betty's Branch area	150	\$250.00	Per Space	\$37,500.00
Reconstruct Volleyball court	1	\$5,000.00	LS	\$5,000.00
Improve Access (5' Concrete Sidewalk)	600	\$22.00	LF	\$13,200.00
Install Playground Safety Surface	2000	\$2.00	SF	\$4,000.00

Subtotal \$59,700.00**Design Fees@8% \$4,776.00****Contingency Fee@15% \$8,955.00****Total \$73,431.00****Reed Creek Park**

Develop park from Master Plan	1	\$1,100,000.00	LS	\$1,100,000.00
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Subtotal \$1,100,000.00**Design Fees@8% \$88,000.00****Contingency Fee@15% \$165,000.00****Total \$1,353,000.00****Roberts Park**

Remove existing structures and fencing	1	\$4,000.00	LS	\$4,000.00
Add new playground equipment	1	\$50,000.00	LS	\$45,000.00
Add sidewalks to B-ball and playground	200	\$13.50	LF	\$2,700.00
Add new backstop for pick-up ball games	1	\$3,000.00	LS	\$3,000.00
Re-pave basketball court and paint poles	1	\$2,000.00	LS	\$2,000.00
Landscaping/irrigation	1	\$10,000.00	LS	\$10,000.00
Entry signage	1	\$4,500.00	LS	\$4,500.00

Subtotal \$71,200.00**Design Fees@8% \$5,696.00****Contingency Fee@15% \$10,680.00****Total \$87,576.00**

**Savannah Rapids Park**

Relocate playground, add new equipment and safety surface	1	\$65,000.00	LS	\$65,000.00
Construct Masterplan items	1	\$5,000,000.00	LS	\$5,000,000.00

Subtotal **\$5,065,000.00**
Design Fees@8% **\$405,200.00**
Contingency Fee@15% **\$759,750.00**
Total **\$6,229,950.00**

Wildwood Park

Pave RV Parking area	100	\$400.00	Per Space	\$40,000.00
New Trophy pavilion at water's edge	1	\$200,000.00	LS	\$200,000.00
New picnic pavilion at Area III (remove old pavilion)	1	\$160,000.00	LS	\$160,000.00
Relocate beach swimming area at Area III	1	\$5,000.00	LS	\$5,000.00
New Trophy pavilion at water's edge	1	\$200,000.00	LS	\$200,000.00
New picnic pavilion at Area III (remove old pavilion)	1	\$160,000.00	LS	\$160,000.00
Relocate beach swimming area at Area III	1	\$5,000.00	LS	\$5,000.00
Landscape/Irrigation	1	\$10,000.00	LS	\$10,000.00

Subtotal **\$780,000.00**
Design Fees@8% **\$62,400.00**
Contingency Fee@15% **\$117,000.00**
Total **\$959,400.00**

Euchee Community Center

Paved H/C accessible trail to the library	600	\$13.50	LF	\$8,100.00
Repair	1	\$25,000.00	LS	\$25,000.00
	1	\$5,000.00	LS	\$5,000.00
	175	\$66.00	LF	\$11,550.00
	2000	\$2.00	SF	\$4,000.00
Entry Sign	1	\$1,500.00	LS	\$1,500.00

Subtotal **\$55,150.00**
Design Fees@8% **\$4,412.00**
Contingency Fee@15% **\$8,272.50**
Total **\$67,834.50**

Eubank Blanchard Community Center

Improve Access (5' Concrete Sidewalk)	500	\$22.00	LF	\$11,000.00
Walking Trail Improvements			LS	\$0.00
Playground improvements - relocation, access, safety surface	1	\$45,000.00	LS	\$45,000.00

Subtotal **\$56,000.00**
Design Fees@8% **\$4,480.00**
Contingency Fee@15% **\$8,400.00**
Total **\$68,880.00**

Goodale Park - City of Grovetown

New signage to designate as Columbia County Park???		\$0.00	LS	0
	0	\$0.00	LS	\$0.00

Subtotal **\$0.00**
Design Fees@8% **\$0.00**
Contingency Fee@15% **\$0.00**
Total **\$0.00**

**Newmantown Road - City of Grovetown**

New signage to designate as Columbia County Park???	1	\$0.00	LS	\$0.00
	0	\$0.00	LF	\$0.00
	0	\$0.00	LS	\$0.00
	0	\$0.00	LS	\$0.00
	0	\$0.00	LS	\$0.00
	0	\$0.00	LS	\$0.00
	0	\$0.00	LS	\$0.00
Subtotal				\$0.00
Design Fees@8%				\$0.00
Contingency Fee@15%				\$0.00
Total				\$0.00

Greenways

Phase 1	3	\$450,000.00	Mile	\$1,350,000.00
Phase 2	2	\$450,000.00	Mile	\$900,000.00
Phase 3	2	\$450,000.00	Mile	\$900,000.00
Phase 4	2	\$450,000.00	Mile	\$900,000.00
Greenway Master Plan and Design Standards	1	\$100,000.00	LS	\$100,000.00
Subtotal				\$4,150,000.00
Design Fees@8%				\$332,000.00
Contingency Fee@15%				\$622,500.00
Total				\$5,104,500.00

Note: Opinions of probable cost are for planning purposes only. Completed master plans with specific design elements will provide more detailed analysis of actual construction costs. Dollar amounts are based on current construction costs. Inflation multipliers should be applied to projects in future years when establishing projected construction budgets.